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About 400 words

MILK

By

Sarah Khadra

I am everywhere. I am in your mother's breasts.

I am tetra-packed in your supermarkets. I am mixed with your coffee in the morning.
I am always here and I know everything.
I started flowing in your seas 50 years ago replacing the water you so avidly consumed. When it rains I'm the one pouring from the sky, infiltrating your skin, your air. I am everywhere.

EVENTS OF THE 21TH OF FEBRUARY

02:05 - Hoards of men are walking down the streets.

They're wearing white robes, the colour of purity, the colour of life, the colour of Milk. It's prayer time.
"To merge into one is the goal of human life!" someone bawls from the crowd.

Two women bring a cow to the city's altar they start wringing the white opaque fluid they are made of and it slowly oozes down the stairs.

04:14 - The lactose intolerant are squatting in a filthy abandoned school. They're sleeping in their own vomit, they're some of the last out there. Shortly they will all die out and spare us from their diseases. Thank Milk.

06:00 - The sun is rising in the artificial milk factory. Workers are wearing decontamination suits. Those have been mandatory since the 2022 accident. I'm artificially generated here and laced with oestrogen and a low dose of uranium. Radioactive quackery has proven itself to be the most efficient method in regulating the behavioural issues we've been having since the eradication of water.

17:05 - Two kids are sitting on a swing, talking and sharing a brick of me. The girl asks to the boy if he's been home recently. The boy answers : "Not since the early death of the first cloned cows."

20:22 - The sky opens, a giant ball of coal slowly descends from the black clouds. There is a flash of light followed by what sounds like death, but this is life.
It is done now, the whole of humanity dissolves into me. In this liquid form, we aren't sad or angry or even happy. We are one.

THE DAY AFTER

02:20 - A woman emerges from the ground.

02:22 - She's followed by something else...
maybe someone else?